

NATURALIST

PURPOSE AND NATURE OF WORK

Position requires conducting natural sciences educational programs for elementary school aged groups at a nature station and its surroundings. Purpose of work is increased understanding and appreciation of interrelationships and interdependences in the environment.

Incumbent works under the general direction of the natural sciences curator, and has no supervisory responsibilities.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK (Note: These examples are intended only to illustrate the various types of work performed by incumbents in this class. All of the duties performed by any one incumbent may not be listed, nor does any incumbent necessarily perform all of these duties.)

Designs and implements educational activities using resources of a nature station building, live exhibits and surrounding park, woodland and waterway. Guides walking tours, night hikes, and presents lectures to children and interested civic groups.

Initiates, designs and implements workshops, and field trips independently. Cares for exhibit animals, performs maintenance on exhibits, nature station building, nature trail, and surroundings.

Occasionally assists in exhibit design and preparation at the Municipal Natural History Museum.

Performs related work as required.

NECESSARY KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge of biology, zoology, botany and identification of local flora and fauna.

Knowledge of principles and methods of educational programs or activities for elementary school aged children.

Ability to communicate effectively with, and manage, a group of school aged children.

Ability to traverse a woodland trail and to maintain the trail.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other employees, the general public and children.

DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Completion of a four year college curriculum in natural sciences such as biology, zoology, botany or related fields and experience in elementary natural science education; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.